Quantity of China Clay available in the State.

Q.—111. Sri C. R. RANGE GOWDA (Magadi).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the places and the quantity of China clay that is available n the State ;

(*b*) how is this China clay made use of, and what is the income derived therefrom ;

(*c*) the action taken to refine the said China clay and the amount spent so far in this behalf.

A.—Sri MAQSOOD ALI KHAN (Deputy Minister for Mines and Geology).—

(*a*) China clay occurs in the form of disconnected deposits in the following areas :—

Bhatkal, Honnavar, Kumta Taluks	...	North Kanara District
Kamthana, Bidar Taluk	...	Bidar District
Khanapur Taluk	...	Belgaum District
Mangalore and surrounding areas	...	South Kanara District
Bageshpur	...	Hassan District
Tirthahalli Taluk	...	Shimoga District
Koppa Taluk	...	Chickmagalur District
Hoskote and Malur Taluks	...	Bangalore District
Near Hebbur	...	Tumkur District
Mulbagal Taluk	...	Kolar District

The exact quantity available in these areas is not estimated.

(*b*) The use of China clay depends upon the chemical and Physical characteristics of the clay. Generally, it is used in ceramic and refractory industry, paper industry, and textile industry. Government gets Re. 1 per tonne on crude clay and Rs. 5 per tonne on washed clay by way of royalty.

(*c*) The Board of Mineral Development has put up 3 levigation plants, two at Bageshapur and one at Thirthahalli to refine China clay, incurring a total expenditure of Rs. 77,273. It is understood that some private mine owners have also put up levigation plants and information about the amount spent by them for putting up the plants is not available.